

Concordia University  
Council of the John Molson School of Business  
Friday, April 6, 2001  
Minutes

Present:: M. Anvari (Chair)  
D. Acland (Acco.), J. Ahmad (Econ.), K. Argheyd (Mana.), C. Basmaji (CASA),  
H. Bhabra (Fina.), R. Chandra, (Mktg.), A. Fagnoli (Reg.), Z. Gidengil (Mktg.), J. Hall  
(Mana.), S. Hoffman (Lib.), A. B. Ibrahim (Assoc. Dean), J. E. Jans (SGS), G. Kanaan  
(Acco.), M. R. Kapoor (Acco.), R. Knitter (Mana.), B. Lee (Acco.), J. McGuire (Assoc.  
Dean), M. Paulin (Mktg.), P. Sévigny (Mana.), S. Ray (Mktg.), W. Roscoe (Acco.),  
J. A. Rosenblatt (MBA), R. Sebaaly (CASA), T. J. Tomberlin (Assoc. Dean),  
R. Vadivel (Staff), F. Velez-Torres (CGSA)

Absent with  
Regret: J. Etezadi, E. Jacinto, G. Kersten, J. Landry, T. O'Connell

I **Call to Order**  
The meeting was called to order at 09:30.

II **Closed Meeting**

III **Open Meeting**

IV **Approval of Agenda - JMSB-2001-03A**  
*It was moved by A. B. Ibrahim and seconded by M. Sharma that Council approve the agenda with the following amendments: items IV and V be changed to JMSB-2001.*  
*The motion was carried unanimously*

V **Approval of the Minutes - JMSB-2001-02M**  
*It was moved by M. Sharma and seconded by K. Argheyd that the minutes of the Council meeting held March 9, 2001 be approved as presented.* *The motion was carried unanimously*

VI **Chair's Remarks and Question Period (15 minutes maximum)**  
M. Anvari reported that the contract with the Institut Français de Gestion for the Executive MBA in Paris had been signed. Student recruitment is in progress for the first class in April 2002. He announced that the University has signed the Contrat de Performance with the Ministry of Education. With the expectation of receiving approximately \$56M in special funding over a three-year period, the contract commits to increase the student retention rate to 80% over a ten-year period. He commented that the School already had the highest retention rate in the University and that the proposed 90% target was somewhat strident. With regard to the planning process,

the Provost's document that is expected to go to Senate sets four themes for the next cycle: hiring and retention of faculty; the promotion of research and scholarship; the promotion of instructional technology in teaching; student retention. The Provost has acknowledged that the first three goals were inspired by the strategic plan of the John Molson School of Business which had not only identified these goals but also provided a plan of action for implementation. Lastly, he advised that a special meeting of the Council will be held to approve nominations for Honorary Doctorates and additional nominations for the Award of Distinction on Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup>.

A brief discussion ensued during which it was noted that: the University plans to maintain academic standards while increasing the student retention rate and there was no commitment by the University for the School to increase enrolments while increasing the rate of retention.

## **VII Council Elections**

### **i) Election cancellations**

M. Sharma explained that S. Appelbaum's speedy recovery from recent surgery led to the cancellation of the election for his replacement on the Board of Governors. He also explained that the clarification of the election procedures led to the annulment of the Council election of C. Bayne as the nominee of the John Molson School of Business for the Search Committee for the Dean of the Graduate Studies and the initiation of a faculty-wide election process. With regard to the two calls for nominations for the Faculty Personnel and Tenure Committee, he reported that only two of the six required nominations had been received. He pleaded with the department Chairs to assist him in obtaining the four additional nominations.

## **VIII Business Arising from Previous Meeting(s)**

### **i) Registrar's submission deadline for final examinations**

A. Farnoli explained that the process for preparing final examinations took twenty working days: five days to receive the documents and organize them for printing; five days for printing; five days to re-sort, package label, verify and store; five days for problem resolution. Requests for extension of the deadline were occasionally granted and faculty members could opt to pay for their printing and deliver their materials to the examination office two days prior to the schedule exam. With regard to McGill's one-week turn around, she reported that examination printing was decentralized with each department being responsible for their exam preparation. With regard to subcontracting for greater efficiency, it was noted that confidentiality may be an issue. It was agreed that D. Morin and J. Jans, members of the Task Force struck by the Vice-Rector, Services to evaluate student and registration services, would ask the Task Force to consider alternative ways of making the examination printing process more efficient.

## **IX Report: Graduate Programs, Research and Program Evaluation**

J. McGuire reported that with the University appraisal process in full swing, there would be a call for members of appraisal committees. She advised that the EMBA and AMBA appraisals were progressing well and the student questionnaires were being prepared for the appraisal of the undergraduate program and the MBA program. Lastly she reported that revisions to the Investment Management Program curriculum would be presented at the May Council meeting..

The Chair commented that G. Lowenfeld, Director of the Investment Management Program, was working hard to promote this new program which, similar to Aviation MBA program, begins in the midst of a downturn in the industry.

## **X CGSA Report**

F. Velez-Torres reported that five of the CGSA executive positions have been filled. It is hoped that the balance will be filled by the end of the month. Other CGSA activities include: a review of the 2000-2001 accounts statement as requested by the Office of the Dean of Students;

the revision of the CGSA constitution; a successful ski trip; and the planning of the graduation gala to take place at the Biosphere on April 28<sup>th</sup>.

**XI Report: Administrative Affairs and Human Resources**

B. Ibrahim reported that the CIT Task Force, G. Kersten, A. Ahmad and M. Paulin, has met regularly and has solicited and received feedback from faculty and staff. Recommendations regarding the future of CIT will be drafted within the next few weeks.

**XII Report: External Affairs and Executive Programs**

T. J. Tomberlin reported three upcoming events: the announcement and celebration of the Ned Goodman Chair in Investment Finance and the announcement of the new Investment Management Program will take place at the Mont Royal Club in Montreal on April 20<sup>th</sup> and the Investment Management Program launch will take place at the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto and April 20<sup>th</sup>; the announcement of the Bloomberg Chair in Accountancy will take place in May along with the anticipated AACSB accreditation of the Accountancy program; the EMBA in Paris launch is scheduled on June 14<sup>th</sup> in Paris, simultaneous announcements will be made in Montreal. He announced that Peter Diekmeyer will feature an article concerning Professor M. Larochein next Tuesday's issue of *The Gazette*.

**XIII Report : Undergraduate Programs, Academic and Student Affairs**

D. Morin reported the receipt of more than seventy applications for the international student exchange program. Fifty students have been accepted and will soon become our ambassadors throughout the world including Australia, France, China, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, Japan Sweden, the U.K. and the U.S.A. It is expected that this year the number of outgoing exchange students will balance with the number of incoming students. The number of applications for September is consistent with last year's with a increase in international students. All faculty members were asked to take special care of potential graduate grades and to submit all other grades as soon as possible. She reported that R. Sebaaly, President, CASA, had been presented and Outstanding Contribution Awards at the recent Concordia Council on Student Life reception where she and R. Sebaaly were the only participants from the School. She expressed a hope for increased participation in next year's event. She reported that the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee was working with M. Haber on the new Commerce Games course and invited everyone to check out the undergraduate program web site.

**XIV CASA Report**

R. Sebaaly reported the success of the annual CASA Awards ceremony . He announced that renovations in CASA will begin in May and thanked Professors Tomberlin, Switzer and Ahmad for participating in the "Bridging the Gap" conference. He announced that the graduation ball was scheduled on June 8<sup>th</sup>, and advised that an article featuring students from the School who opposed the FTAA was expected to appear in a forthcoming issue of *The Gazette*. Lastly, he introduced Ms. Cristelle Basmaji, CASA President, 2001-2002.

**XV Reports from Faculty Representatives on University Committees**

There were no reports from the following committees:

1. University Senate
2. Arts and Science Faculty Council
3. Senate Academic Planning and Priorities
4. Senate Academic Programs Committee
5. Senate Research Committee
6. University Library Committee
7. Undergraduate Scholarships and Awards Sub-committee
8. Board of Governors
9. Council of the School of Graduate Studies

**XVI New Business**

i) Award for Graduate Mentoring – JMSB-2001-03A-02

J. Jans noted that the document had been approved by Graduate Studies one year ago. The process is student driven and has been enthusiastically supported by graduate students. During a brief discussion of the proposal, it was clarified that if more than two candidates were nominated from one Faculty, the Dean of the Faculty would decide which nominations would go forward. One member of Council commented that the assessment of excellence in mentoring would be very difficult.

ii) Procedure for conferring the status of "Distinguished Professor Emeritus"

The Chair advised that the term Professor Emeritus will now apply to all faculty members who retire. The process for conferring the status of Distinguished Professor Emeritus is described in document US-2001-3-D8. There was one objection to process that, similar to the merit process, promoted inequalities among faculty members. A call for nominations will be issued in the near future. In response to a question as to how the nominations would be evaluated, the Chair pointed it out that it has not been the tradition of the Council of the School to deal with personnel matters. Members of Council agreed to his suggestion that a procedure for evaluating nomination be developed by the Dean and Department Chairs. The draft procedures would then be discussed, modified and approved by Faculty Council.

**XVII Other Business - There was no other business.**

**XVIII Adjournment**

*It was moved by M. Sharma and seconded by T. J. Tomberlin that the meeting be adjourned.*

*The motion was carried unanimously.*

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55.

**XIX Next meeting**

**PLEASE NOTE:** There will be a special closed meeting of Faculty Council on Friday, April 27, 2001 at 09:30 in room GM403-2 for the approval of Honorary Doctorate nominations.

The next regular meeting of Faculty Council will take place Friday, May 18, 2001 at 09:30 in GM403-2. The first portion of the meeting will be a closed session for the approval of spring 2001 graduates